

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 218595
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SAA-01 SES-02 SSM-03 SSO-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /083 R

DRAFTED BY: NEA:MDRAPER:CF
APPROVED BY:NEA:MDRAPER
IO-MR HELMAN
S/S-O:RCASTRODALE

-----000628 290524Z /10

O P 282223Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 218595

FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, PINT, SY, LE

SUBJECT: SYRIAN PRESENCE IN LEBANON

REF: DAMASCUS 4995 (NOTAL)

1. YOU SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT TRY TO SEE KHADDAM OR DEPUTY
FOREIGN MINISTER KADDOUR ON EVE OF KHADDAM'S VISIT TO MOSCOW
(REFTEL). AS YOU MIGHT HAVE GATHERED, WE HAVE WANTED TO
KNOW THE POSSIBILITIES FOR GETTING IN TOUCH WITH KEY
SYRIANS FOR DISCUSSION OF THE LEBANESE SITUATION, DURING
WHICH WE MIGHT WANT YOU TO PLANT IDEA QUIETLY OF A SYRIAN
SECRET

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OR SYRIAN-LEBANESE ANNOUNCEMENT OF AN EVENTUAL FIRST STAGE
SYRIAN WITHDRAWAL. THERE IS CONSIDERABLE SENTIMENT HERE
FOR MAKING SUCH A SUGGESTION WITHIN AN EXCHANGE ON LEBANON
PRIOR TO CAMP DAVID, BUT THE PRESENT TIME -- GIVEN THE NEW
TENSIONS IN NORTHERN LEBANON -- DOES NOT APPEAR PROPITIOUS.

2. WE ALSO BELIEVE THERE WOULD BE MERIT IN AN EARLY U.S.-

SYRIAN EXCHANGE ON THE SOUTHERN LEBANON SITUATION, AND WILL
BE GIVING YOU OUR THOUGHTS SHORTLY. CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, MILITARY PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE218595
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NEA:MDRAPER:CF
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780352-0096
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780816/aaaaandc.tel
Line Count: 64
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f91b635a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 DAMASCUS 4995
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1597891
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SYRIAN PRESENCE IN LEBANON
TAGS: PEPR, PINT, LE, SY
To: DAMASCUS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f91b635a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014